of beneficiaries covered by the present Central Government Health Scheme (C.G.H.S.) to provide for cashless medical facilities;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the present status of its implementation; and

(c) the details of the service provider(s) or insurance company(ies) identified for implementing the scheme and the criteria evolved for selection of the service provider(s)?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) In view of reply to (a) above, the questions do not arise.

Procurement of anti Bird Flu drugs

3135. SHRI SURESH BHARDWAJ: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that anti Bird Flu drugs were procured by Government from a license holder of Roche, the German drug multinational company;

(b) if so, the procedure followed to select the drug company and the price negotiated for the supply of drugs;

(c) whether an Indian Pharma Company claimed to supply the same drugs at much lesser price; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the reasons for not selecting them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Government of India took a decision to stockpile one lakh courses of Oseltamivir. At that point of time M/s. Roche, Switzerland was the only manufacturer of the drug. M/s. Roche have supplied 30,000 packs of Tamiflu (Oseltamivir) at a special concessional price of Rs. 852/- per pack. M/s. Hetero Drugs Pvt. Ltd. An Indian Pharmaceutical Company. Subsequently obtained license to manufacture the drug. 70,000 packs of Oseltamivir capsules have been procured from M/s. Hetero Drugs Pvt. Ltd., Hyderabad, @ Rs. 710/- per pack (10 capsules per pack).

A Secretaries Committee constituted by an Inter Ministerial Task Force and an Integrated Purchase Advisory Committee for drugs and medicines approved the source of procurement, quantity and the rates.

(d) In view of (b) & (c) above, question does not arise.

Construction of bridge on crossing near Safedabad

†3136. SHRI BANWARI LAL KANCHHAL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a long jam at the railway crossing near Safedabad on Lucknow-Barabanki road due to heavy traffic of trains there;

(b) whether the people passing through that road have to face much difficulties due to this jam;

(c) whether his Ministry is contemplating to construct a bridge on this crossing; and

(d) if so, by when this work would start?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) and (b) The Level Crossing (LC) No 180-A Safedabad is a busy level crossing with traffic density of 365267 TVUS as per traffic census taken in year 2000.

(c) and (d) The work of road over bridge at Safedabad in lieu of LC No 180-A was sanctioned on cost sharing basis in 1999-2000 at a total cost of Rs 18.57 Cr. But, subsequently, State Govt. of Uttar Pradesh advised in Sept., 2001 that work is to be taken by National Highway Authority of India (NHAI) on Build, Operate and Transfer (BOT) basis. Railway approached NHAI in Jan., 2003 to take up and complete the work on priority but NHAI has not informed about any action taken so far.

Electrification of Delhi-Muzaffarnagar rail line

†3137. SHRI AMIR ALAM KHAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any plan for the electrification of Delhi-Muzaffarnagar railway track;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.